

human cloning; it can only begin to regulate it. This will be a day late and a dollar short for a clone that is used for research, harvesting organs, or born grotesquely deformed.

Meanwhile, there is a select group of privately funded scientists and religious sects who are prepared to begin cloning human embryos and attempting to produce a cloned child. While they believe this brave new world of Frankenstein science will benefit mankind, most would disagree. In fact, virtually every widely known and respected organization that has taken a position on reproductive human cloning flatly opposes this notion because of the extreme ethical and moral concerns.

Others argue that cloned humans are the key that will unlock the door to medical achievements in the 21st century. Nothing could be further from the truth. These miraculous achievements may be found through stem cell research, but not cloning.

Let me be perfectly clear: H.R. 2505 does not in any way impede or prohibit stem cell research that does not require cloned human embryos. This debate is whether or not it should be legal in the United States to clone human beings.

While H.R. 2505 does not prohibit the use of cloning techniques to produce molecules, DNA cells other than human embryos, tissues, organs, plants, and animals other than humans, it does prohibit the creation of cloned embryos. This is absolutely necessary to prevent human cloning, because, as we all know, embryos become people.

If scientists were permitted to clone embryos, they would eventually be stockpiled and mass-marketed. In addition, it would be impossible to enforce a ban on human reproductive cloning. Therefore, any legislative attempt to ban human cloning must include embryos.

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Should human cloning ever prove successful, its potential applications and expected demands would undoubtedly and ultimately lead to a worldwide mass market for human clones. Human clones would be used for medical experimentation, leading to human exploitation under the good name of medicine. Parents would want the best genes for their children, creating a market for human designer genes.

Again, governments will have to weigh in to decide questions such as what rights do human clones hold, who is responsible for human clones, who will ensure their health, and what interaction will clones have with their genealogical parent.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) have introduced this legislation before a cloned human has been produced.

As most people know, Dolly the sheep was cloned in 1997. Since that time, scientists from around the globe have experimentally cloned a number of monkeys, mice, cows, goats, lambs, bulls and pigs. It took 276 attempts to clone Dolly, and these later experiments also produced a very low rate of success, a dismal 3 percent. Now, some of the same scientists would like to add people to their experimental list.

Human cloning is ethically and morally offensive and contradicts virtually everything America stands for. It diminishes the careful balance of humanity that Mother Nature has installed in each of us. If we want a society where life is respected, we should take whatever steps are necessary to prohibit human cloning.

I believe we need to send a clear and distinct message to the watching world that America will not permit human cloning and that it does support scientific research. This bill sends this message, that it permits cloning research on human DNA molecules, cells, tissues, organs or animals, but prevents the creation of cloned human embryos.

Mr. Speaker, support H.R. 2505. Stop human cloning and preserve the integrity of mankind and allow scientific research to continue.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Members for an excellent debate during the debate on the rule, as well as I hope this one will be constructive. I ask the Members, suppose you learned that you had contracted a deadly disease, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, but the Congress had banned the single most promising avenue for curing the disease. And that is precisely what we will be doing if we pass the Weldon bill in its present form, because it is a sweeping bill.

Let us give it credit. It is half right, it is half wrong. But it is so sweeping that it would not only ban reproductive cloning, but all uses of nuclear cell transfer for experimental purposes. This would stop ongoing studies designed to help persons suffering from a whole litany of diseases. So far-reaching is this measure that it bans the importation even of lifesaving medicine from other countries if it has had anything to do with experimental cloning. What does it mean? If another nation's scientist developed a cure for cancer, it would be illegal for persons living in this country to benefit from the drug.

Question: Does this make good policy? Is this really what we want to do here this afternoon?

Besides that, the legislation would totally undermine lifesaving stem cell research that so many Members in both bodies strongly support. One need not be a surgeon to understand that it is far preferable to replace diseased and cancer-ridden cells with new cells based on a patient's own DNA. We simply cannot replicate the needed cells with adult cells only, and this is why

we need to keep experimenting with nuclear cell transfer.

That is why I am trying to give the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON), as much credit as humanly possible. It is half right, it is half wrong; and we are trying, in this debate, to make that correction.

Now, if we really wanted to do something about cloning, about the problem of reproducing real people, then we invite the other side to join with us in passing the Greenwood-Deutsch substitute to criminalize reproductive cloning that will also be considered by the House today, for there is broad bipartisan support on both sides of the aisle for such a proposition, and we could come together and do something that I believe most of our citizens would like.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the distinguished former chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary.

(Mr. HYDE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Weldon-Stupak bill.

Every Member of this House casts thousands of votes in the course of a congressional career. Some of those votes we remember with satisfaction; others we remember with less pleasure. That is the burden we take on ourselves when we take the oath of our office: the burden of decision.

We should feel the gravity of that burden today. For no vote that any of us will ever cast is as fraught with consequence as our vote on whether or not to permit human cloning.

Advances in the life sciences have brought us to a decisive fork in the road. Will our new genetic knowledge and the biotechnologies it helps create, promote healing and genuine human flourishing? Or will we use this new knowledge to remanufacture the human condition by manufacturing human beings?

The first road leads us to a brighter future, in which lives are enhanced and possibilities are enlarged, for the betterment of individuals and humanity. The second road leads us into the brave new world so chillingly described by Aldous Huxley more than 60 years ago; a world of manufactured men and women, designed to someone else's specifications, for someone's else's benefit, in order to fulfill someone else's agenda.

When manufacture replaces begetting as the means to create the human future, the dehumanization of the future is here.

That is what is at stake in this vote. That is what we are being asked to decide today. Are we going to use the new knowledge given us by science for genuinely humane ends? Or are we going to slide slowly, inexorably into the brave new world?

When we succeeded in splitting the atom, an entire new world of knowledge about the physical universe opened before us. At the same time, as we remember all too well from the cold war, our new knowledge of physics, and the weapons it made possible, handed us the key to our own destruction. It continues to